

ployés have the least tendency to suicide of any of the professions, while those engaged in industrial occupations are at the other extreme. But we have passed our limits, and must refer the reader who desires further information to the book itself.

**Some experiences of a barrister's life.** By Mr. Serjeant BALLANTINE. 12mo, pp. 527.

Serjeant Ballantine, an eminent member of the English bar, has seen fit to give us some experiences of his career as a lawyer, which for frankness and freedom are unsurpassed by any similar productions in the same line which have come under our observation. His references to the medical profession are many, and generally are in a kindly spirit; but his criticisms on judges and his fellow barristers are often so thoroughly outspoken and antagonistic, that we venture the assertion that the author will be kept in hot water for the remainder of his life. However that may be, the honesty of the serjeant is not to be questioned. Many *causes célèbres* have their interiors exposed to view, and his remarks relative to expert testimony are such as will meet with general acceptance from both the medical and legal professions. There are also shrewd observations in regard to damages for railway accidents, kleptomania, and other medico-legal subjects of great interest to physicians.

We wish we could speak in equally unqualified terms of what he says about vivisection. Here he looks at the matter altogether from the animals' point of view, disregarding entirely the advantages which properly conducted experiments afford to human beings. We wonder, for instance, what he or Mr. Bergh would do, if it was suspected that the baby of either of them (if either has a baby) had taken food which it was supposed might have caused certain alarming symptoms, and the doctor, to test the matter, so as to have a guide for his own action, and to subserve the possible ends of justice, should give a portion of the suspected mass to a worthless cat or dog. And yet, such conduct, from their standpoint, would be altogether unjustifiable. The cruel sentimentality of the serjeant on this subject is strangely at variance with his hard common-sense on other matters.

A remarkable feature of his book is the revelation it makes of his bad memory in regard to occurrences which one would think could scarcely fail to make a strong impression upon him. He forgets with whom he dined on several memorable occasions; the name of the vessel that brought him back from his memorable visit to India; the name of a fish which he found particularly

palatable, and other like circumstances. There is scarcely a page that does not contain some notable lapse of memory relative to things, persons, or events, which most men in his situation would have remembered to the end of their lives. His outspoken revelations in regard to prominent officials would scarcely be outshown by the police records of Deadwood, Tombstone, or by our own Congress. Thus we are told that a Mr. Chisholm Andrews, a member of Parliament, on being appointed Attorney-General for Hong Kong, celebrated the event by breaking the heads of a couple of policemen, and after entering upon his duties, committed so many vagaries that the government was obliged to recall him. It appears, too, that London gambling-houses and other dens of iniquity keep the police in their pay so as to escape arrest.

We were innocently under the impression that such practices were confined to a well-known police district in New York. Altogether, the turning inside out of police, legal, and social matters made by the serjeant, are quite consolatory to our civic and national self-composure. We certainly advise all our readers to get this book, and to read it with the confidence that they will find much in it to reconcile them to our own curious ways.

**Neurologisches Centralblatt. Uebersicht der Leistungen auf dem Gebiete der Anatomie, Physiologie, Pathologie, und Therapie des Nervensystems, einschliesslich der Geisteskrankheiten.** Herausgegeben von Dr. E. MENDEL, Privatdocent an der Universität Berlin.

*Neurologisches Centralblatt.* Review of the work done in the Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and Therapy of the Nervous System, including Mental Diseases. Edited by Dr. E. Mendel, etc., etc., Berlin.

We welcome to our exchange list this new journal, devoted to the interests of neurological progress. Two numbers are to be issued each month.

Under original contributions we find in the first number articles from Dr. A. Eulenburg and Th. Rumpf, and among the collaborators are many familiar names, such as Erb's and Flechsig's. The abstract department, under the title of *Referate*, gives a careful outlook over the most recent advances in nervous diseases in all its departments.

Judging from the specimens already received, it is safe to predict a successful future to Dr. Mendel's journal. It at once takes its place on its merits among the serious enterprises in this department of medical knowledge.